Who’s Who & What’s What?

Professor Gillian Baird is a consultant in children's neurodisability at Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust. She is also the Vice President of the National Autism Society. Baird is an expert in autism diagnosis and care.

Virginia Carter Leno recently completed a MSc in Developmental Neuroscience and is interested in understanding the mechanisms that drive challenging behaviours in people with ASD.

Professor Martin Knapp, based at the London School of Economics, is an internationally-recognised expert in the economic consequences of autism. He will lead the health economics component of the programme.

Tom Purser is the NAS Head of Campaigns and Public Engagement. NAS will disseminate the research findings at the end of the project.

Professor Declan Murphy is clinical psychiatrist at the IoP at KCL and an international expert in autism in adults and its neurobiology.

Professor Tony Charman is a clinical psychologist at KCL and an expert on early interventions for ASD with a particular focus on early childhood.

Professor Bryony Beresford is the Director of Research for the Children & Families Team research programme at the University of York. She will provide expertise in qualitative research for the programme. Her research interests focus on children’s experience of illness & disability.

Carol Povey is the Director of the National Autism Society (NAS). She has been instrumental in identifying patients, parents/ carers and siblings for focus groups and the programme steering committee.

Professor Andrew Pickles is professor of biostatistics at the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London (KCL), and has extensive experience of measurement in ASD.

Monika Kovacs is the project administrator. She provides organisational, financial and project management support to each of the work packages and the PPI panels.

Dr Marina Romero Gonzalez is a medical doctor, specialising in psychiatry. She completed her PhD with a distinction at the University of Malaga (Spain) and is interested in expressed emotion in people with ASD. She works on the Predictors work package.

Isabel Yorke has just completed her MSc at the Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre and is now a PhD student interested in the environmental factors that contribute to additional mental health problems in people with ASD. Isabel works on the Predictors work package.

Dr Edmund Coleman-Fountain is a researcher on the Biographies work package.

Dr. Melanie Palmer is a post-doctoral researcher on the IAMHealth project. She recently completed a Universitas 21 Joint PhD from the universities of Auckland and Glasgow and is interested in parenting interventions for children with autism. Melanie works on the Treatment work package.

Dr Juan Paris is a psychiatrist working under a fellowship grant awarded by the Alicia Koplowitz Foundation, collaborating part time with the ASTAR project and doing clinical work in SLAM CAMHS sites.

Dr Renee Romeo is a medical health statistician at the IoP at KCL. Her research interests include investigating the economic impact of community-based mental health services and treatment.

Dr Silia Vitoratou is a research fellow at the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London (KCL) with expertise in Psychometrics.

Pippa White recently graduated with a distinction in her MSc and is interested in positive behaviour support for individuals with learning disability.

Dr Susie Chandler is a post-doctoral researcher on the Predictors Package. She is interested in the developmental trajectories of children with autism, as well as the presentation and impact of psychiatric comorbidities in this group.

Dr Paramala Santosh is a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist at KCL. Santosh has previously developed instruments for use in specialized populations with mental health needs.

Professor Emily Simonoff—Lead Investigator is a clinical psychiatrist, and Head of the Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry (IoP) at King's College London (KCL). A leader in ASD research, she will manage all aspects of the project.

Dr Vicky Slonims is a consultant speech and language therapist at St Thomas’ Hospital, and an honorary senior lecturer at KCL. She will chair the project’s Lay Panels, ensuring their engagement in all aspects of the programme.

Natalie Heaney completed an MSc in Child and Adolescent Mental Health at UCL with a distinction. She is a researcher on the validation of the Assessment of Concerning Behaviours scale.

Dr Joanne Tarver completed her PhD at the University of Nottingham and is a researcher on developing the SMART tool.

Dr continuation.